

TITLE: In Memoriam: John Alex McCone

AUTHOR: Judge William H. Webster

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# STUDIES IN INTELLIGENCE

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**Secret**  
*NOFORN*

**In Memoriam**



**John Alex McCone**

(Portrait by William F. Draper)

**Secret**

**Secret  
NOFORN****JOHN ALEX McCONE**

TENURE AS DCI	29 November 1961–28 April 1965
BIRTH	4 January 1902, San Francisco, California
EDUCATION	Attended University of California
APPOINTMENT	Appointed by President John F. Kennedy, 27 September 1961 Sworn in as recess appointee, 29 November 1961 Confirmed by U.S. Senate, 31 January 1962
RELIEVED	Resigned, effective 28 April 1965
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	Lieutenant General Marshall A. Carter, U.S. Army
EARLIER CAREER	Private business Member of President's Air Policy Commission, 1947–1948 Deputy to the Secretary of Defense, March–November 1948 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1950–1951 Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, 1958–1960
LATER CAREER	Private business Counselor to the President's Commission on Strategic Forces, 1983 Received Presidential Medal of Freedom, 1987
DEATH	14 February 1991, Pebble Beach, California

John A. McCone, who served as Director of Central Intelligence from 1961 to 1965, made an enormous contribution to the security of this nation. He guided the Intelligence Community during a particularly trying time, and it was under his leadership that the Central Intelligence Agency provided vital information to President Kennedy and senior policymakers during the Cuban missile crisis.

Mr. McCone was sharp, tough, and demanding—qualities that made him a highly effective

and widely respected leader. As DCI, Mr. McCone strengthened the Intelligence Community's capabilities and maintained its reputation for unbiased analysis. A strong advocate of technical collection, Mr. McCone created a new Directorate for Science and Technology and coordinated overhead reconnaissance program responsibilities with the Air Force.

Mr. McCone's long and distinguished career in government was marked by excellence, integrity, and selfless devotion to duty.

Judge William H. Webster